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Photos by Paul Van Hemel, March 22, 2019

New and Continuing Members Enjoy Spring-Term Kickoff Coffee at Tallwood, March 22

March 29, 2019

Editor of the Week: Paul Van Hemel

Table of Contents

- [Alerts & Notices](#)
- [From the Desk of the Executive Director: What Books Are You Reading Lately?](#)
- [Inside OLLI-Mason:](#)
- [Time for the 2019 Board of Directors Election](#)
- [Inside OLLI-Mason:](#)
- [Dorsey Chescavage, OLLI Volunteer](#)
- [History Club April Meeting](#)
- [Music Sampler Offers Beautiful Music](#)
- [OLLI Member Publishes New Book](#)
- [Poet's Corner](#)
- [Arts & Music at George Mason](#)
- [Meetings & Clubs](#)
- [About OLLI E-News](#)

Alerts & Notices

- It's early, but save the date for the OLLI Players production of *Sherlock Bones and the Unfortunate Demise of Elvis*, with the Tallwood Trio and Nancy Riley, Friday, May 31, 10:00-12:00 at the Church of the Good Shepherd.
- The next issue of *OLLI E-News* will be published April 5; regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, April 2, at 6:00.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

From the Desk of the Executive Director: What Books Are You Reading Lately?



By Jennifer Disano, Executive Director

I love to read, and I enjoy all genres and forms; including the novel, poetry, biographies, and even research papers. Reading is a great enrichment for me and an inspiration to my own attempts at the written word. I just finished Delia Owen's latest novel *Where the Crawdads Sing*, which I highly recommend, and now I'm on to Joby Warrick's book, *Black Flags* about the rise of Isis—Joby is coming to OLLI in fall 2020.

OLLI is a great place to learn about new authors, revisit classic reads, and share impressions of books. Along with our terrific literature courses, OLLI hosts three great book clubs, one at each campus. Check out the spring selections below, and I hope you consider attending a book club session this term.

Tallwood Book Club:

April 10: *Book One*, by John Lewis

May 8: *Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President*, by Candace Millard

June 10: *The Great Alone*, by Kristin Hannah.

Reston Book Club:

During spring term, we will examine three novels featuring interconnected short stories.

March 28: Nobel Prize winner Alice Munro's *The Lives of Girls and Women*

April 18: *Anything is Possible*, by Elizabeth Strout

May 9: *My Name is Lucy Barton*, by Elizabeth Strout.

Loudoun Non-Fiction Book Club:

March 26: *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, by Jared Diamond.

April 23: *Astrophysics for People in a Hurry*, by Neil deGrasse Tyson

Summer: *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War*, by Nathaniel Philbrick.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Inside OLLI -Mason: Time for the 2019 Board of Directors Election



By Evan Douple, Board Member and Nominating Committee Chair



The OLLI Nominating Committee has announced its seven nominees who will be candidates for the six vacancies that will be filled during the elections in May. This spring term, candidates can be spotted wearing special name tags prepared by OLLI staff; liaisons are asked to introduce any candidates in spring classes. There are two upcoming events where members will be able to meet the new slate of candidates running for the Board: April 26 and May 3. The session on April 26 will be at the super salad social at the United Christian Parish Church in Reston, and the May 3 session will be at our annual business meeting and picnic at Tallwood. These are important opportunities for members to hear from the candidates and to ask them questions. Elections will begin May 3 and will end on May 17.

- Nominating Committee Members:
 Evan Douple (Chair)
 Bill Ackerman
 Mary Coyne
 Marguerite Johnson
 Nancy Scheeler
 Angie Talaber
 David Talaber
 Tom Urman

The figure below shows the nominees; brief statements follow.



Jim Dunphy has been an OLLI member since 2010, and his wide education and experience will serve him well in advancing the great work that OLLI does. He is a West Point graduate, serving for 30 years in the US Army and Army Reserves, retiring as a colonel. He holds graduate degrees in, among other fields, public administration, strategic studies, military studies, history, and education (the latter two from Mason), along with

a law degree. For 20 years, Jim was a senior attorney for the veterans' administration. After retirement, he taught middle school language arts and was the director of education for the union representing veterans' administration workers, both of which provided experience in educational organizations. Over the past two years, Jim has brought almost two dozen classes in history, music, and sports to all three OLLI locations. He is the OLLI social events committee chair, in charge of winter and summer social events, and the annual Veterans Day commemoration, the founding chair of the Teacher Resource Initiative, a multi-pronged program providing resources for teachers to use in their classes. This varied experience inside and outside OLLI has allowed him to identify issues regarding OLLI's core mission of teaching and to craft specific solutions.

Fred Kaiser's goal for the Board of Directors is for OLLI to continue to provide a broad range of informative courses that will enrich members life-long learning. As an active member of OLLI over 15 years, Fred has had the opportunity to present or coordinate OLLI presentations on natural resources, including climate change, sustainable forestry, and wildlife management. Fred was employed for 38 years by U.S. Forest Service where he received the President's Rank Award for distinguished service and the Hammer award for contributing to building a government that works better. He was recognized by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations for outstanding service for leadership concerning forest resource analysis, and published over 80 articles on forest resource management. After retiring from the U.S. Forest Service, he conducted program audits for the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Sustainable Forest Initiative (SFI). Fred served as an officer in U.S. Army Field Artillery in Germany and obtained his in PhD in forest economics from Michigan State University and BS in economics and forestry from Iowa State University.

Rosemary Lubinski told Rala and Russell Stone that she was moving to Fairfax to be near her daughter, and they said, "We have just the thing for you...OLLI." They knew that she would be attracted to the wide variety of OLLI programs, and in less than two years she has taken over 20 courses in photography, religion, politics, psychoanalysis, and China. She's impressed by the talent of the photography club and their volunteer projects. Rosemary says that every course is not only interesting and well presented, but it's worth going to hear the audience's questions. A graduate of Columbia University, Rosemary retired after a 40-year career at the University at Buffalo as a professor of speech-language pathology. She specialized in the communication problems of older persons, dementia, aphasia, traumatic brain injury, and in professional issues. She has spoken on these topics nationally and internationally and has published widely including seven books. She brings expertise in the cognitive, sensory, physical, and social changes associated with aging and professional writing skills. She says, "OLLI is a treasure. Everyone in the retirement process should know about the breadth and availability of OLLI programs. Take one and you will be hooked!"

Carolyn F. Wyatt grew up in the colonial town of Westfield, New Jersey. She graduated from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, and earned an M.A. in spanish language and literature from Indiana University. After ten years as a college instructor, Air Force English trainer, and student, Carolyn signed on as a CIA open-source officer. She was privileged to spend the next decade overseas in Latin America, Asia, and Europe. Carolyn retired in 2002 and was a part-time agency contractor in the areas of training, customer service, and professional effectiveness coaching. OLLI has been a boon to Carolyn, who considers herself a continuous learner and an avid teacher. She hopes to contribute further to OLLI's vibrant presence and help build the organization's vital future. She would like to assist OLLI in facing its various challenges, including providing quality experiences for a demanding baby-boomer population at a competitive cost and with mostly volunteers. Carolyn lives in Herndon with husband and OLLI member Michael S. Moore, a domestic longhaired cat, and a merry little Havanese. Wild animals on the property include blue-birds and dust bunnies.

Rita Way is a retired medical/surgical nurse and long-term care consultant. She moved from Philadelphia to Fairfax almost five years ago and has been a member of OLLI ever since. During this time Rita has been an active volunteer, working on several committees, helping in the office, and serving as co-chair of the special events committee. She has taught several classes at OLLI on various subjects such as, the history of medicine, the dust bowl, and the Quakers, Amish, and Mennonites. Rita has served as secretary of the OLLI Board for three years and is now running for her second term.

Marianne Metz joined OLLI-Mason seven years ago and has been impressed by the intelligence, insights, and depth and breadth of knowledge of fellow OLLI members—and most of all by their indefatigable eagerness to learn more. This is an extraordinary community of lifelong learners. Our classes and programs are envied—and copied—by OLLIs around the country. As we now stand on the brink of change, Marianne is running for a second Board term to help us continue providing quality programs in the best way possible for a growing membership.

Continuing the work of the Strategic Planning Committee is part of it. While serving on the Board, Marianne has tried to take every opportunity to elicit and listen to fellow OLLI members' views, concerns, and frustrations, at all our campuses. Marianne also co-chairs the Art and Music Program Planning Group. In addition to bringing in some top teachers, she has offered more than 20 classes herself, at all three campuses. Outside OLLI, Marianne is one of Washington's leading audio describers, helping enhance accessibility for visually-impaired theatergoers at the Kennedy Center, Signature Theatre, Arena Stage, and other venues. She also produces and hosts a weekly radio show.

Margot Marino joined OLLI 3 years ago and has been a devoted OLLI participant since the beginning. She has lived and worked in several international settings (applying her language proficiencies in German, English, and French) and enjoys participating in multicultural meetings, as well as listening to and learning from other mixed-group gatherings. She brings to the table experiences in a variety of positions which exposed her to a wide range of administrative and managerial procedures and processes, especially customer service. Margot retired from the US Department of State after 23 years of service in several bureaus with varied departmental-specific work, ending her career as team leader of the benefits and retirement section in the bureau of administration's human resources branch. Closer to home, she nurtures relationships with local organizations and her residential community, including, for example, activities such as English as a second language instructor, voting/election officer, engagements at the Fairfax City Senior Center, and pet-sitting services for neighbors and friends. She shares her living quarters with two furry companions, who ensure that she leads an ennu-free life. Service on the Board would be a great honor for Margot, and she stands ready to support the OLLI community with the goal of actively pursuing avenues to uphold and expand OLLI's standard of excellence.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Inside OLLI-Mason: Dorsey Chescavage, OLLI Volunteer



By **Dennis VanLangen**, *Class Liaison and Moderator for What's in the Daily News?*



Monday mornin', it was all I hoped it would be!

Dorsey Chescavage, an OLLI volunteer at Tallwood Campus for the past 10 years, loves Monday mornings. She is a volunteer moderator for the popular discussion group, 'What's in the Daily News?' Dorsey has a keen interest in national and world events, along with political impacts on the news. Soon after joining class as a student, she accepted an offer to be moderator in 2009. Dorsey recalls the early days when she wrote down all discussion topics on the whiteboard before each class. She has rarely missed a Monday session and always looks forward to seeing class members and facilitating their lively and illuminating interactions on a variety of news events. *(Photo by Dennis VanLangen)*



Dorsey was born into a military family at West Point and is also an Army wife. She has traveled extensively with her family within the U.S. and to and from European countries over four decades. Experiences living in different countries have shaped how she perceives the world. Her exposure to different cultures, customs, and languages has enriched her interests in global news events.

Long-term volunteer activities were not new to Dorsey when she became an OLLI volunteer. She volunteered for 11 years in the 1980s-90s for the National Military Family Association (NMFA). Her specialty was access to military health care for active-duty and retired military and their families. In her advocacy, she testified many times before Senate and House Armed Services and Defense Appropriations Committees.

With her outgoing and easy-going nature, Dorsey is a skilled moderator, encouraging full class participation,

asking thought-provoking questions, and keeping discussions moving with smooth transitions from topic to topic.

As a class moderator, Dorsey says her most significant reward is learning from class participants, many of whom are retired military officers, former government officials, and professionals from all walks of life. They bring a wealth and breadth of knowledge and passion to every class and share their career and life experiences as they relate to the news. The class always has some light-hearted humor thrown in for good measure.

Outside of OLLI volunteering, Dorsey stays very active. She has led a group of lady golfers for many years and still plays golf regularly. She and her husband are constantly on the go, meeting several friends for lunches and social events. She closely follows the news every day, and for a decade she has moderated a class that provides a rich learning experience. OLLI is proud to have Dorsey on our team of dedicated volunteers!

[Back to Top of Page](#)

History Club April Meeting



By **Beth Lambert**, *History Club Coordinator*

The History Club will hold its April meeting on Wednesday, April 3, at 2:15 in TA-1. Our speaker will be former OLLI member Jim Hubbard, who will speak about his book, *Decent, Safe, and Sanitary Dwellings: The National Conversation About Public Housing, 1932-1973* (available [here](#)). In fact, Jim's book originated in an OLLI class that he taught on President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. He will talk about why the book is constructed as it is and why it may alter our view of the recent past.

All OLLI members are welcome—even encouraged—to attend History Club meetings. We look forward to seeing you on April 3.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Music Sampler Offers Beautiful Music



By **John Nash**, *OLLI E-News Editor/Staff Writer*

OLLI has many wonderful programs each term but consistently, one of the best is the Music Sampler. This program showcases students and faculty from the Mason School of Music.

The first presentation this past Tuesday was an incredible lecture-recital by Dr. Linda Apple Monson's student, Luke Ratcliff, who explained and then played pieces by Bach, Cummings, and Beethoven. Other presentations in the spring Music Sampler program include:

- April 2: Professor Patricia Miller presenting some of her vocal studies students.
- April 9: Dr. Anna Balakerskaia presenting some of her piano students in solo and chamber repertoire.
- April 16: Dr. Andrew Cole presents creative student composers in original new works.
- April 23: Dr. Linda Apple Monson presents some of her students in a dynamic solo repertoire.
- April 30: The Gunston Trio, with Professor June Huang (violin), Professor Gerald Fowkes (cello), and Dr. John Healey (piano), presenting Gabriel Faure's *Piano Trio*.
- May 7: Dr. Eunae Ko Han and her piano trio "Kalos" offering music from Hayden to Piazzolla and more.



- May 14: Professors Jennifer Lapple (flute) and Matthew Trkula (guitar) performing duets of works by Giuliani, Beethoven, Mozart, and more.

For those who love music, attending the Music Sampler is a wonderful way to begin the week. "I always try to sign up for this program," said one OLLI member. "I see performances and hear outstanding music that I would expect to pay big bucks for at the Kennedy Center or other professional venues."



The Music Sampler is offered this spring term at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church, beginning at 9:30 each Tuesday morning. There is plenty of seating available so OLLI members not signed up can always attend. Please come and enjoy this beautiful music and support our incredible Mason music students.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Member Achievement

OLLI Member Publishes New Book



By Elizabeth Ticknor, OLLI Member



I just published my fifth book since joining OLLI. This one, *Vengeance*, a mystery, is available at Amazon (click [here](#)) and Barnes and Noble (at [this link](#)). Here's a bit about it: amateur detectives, Ruth, her husband, Ted, and their neighbors, retired CIA operatives Lil and David, are back to solve another murder. Their neighbor's nineteen-year-old granddaughter, a troubled young woman with a recurring drug habit, is dead. The police conclude that she died of an accidental drug overdose. Her grandmother is convinced she has been murdered. She enlists the help of her four neighbors who begin to look for likely suspects. Our intrepid team is put to the test after a second murder occurs. Leads take them from Delaware, to Arizona, to Virginia.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop

When It Comes to Poetry

I want it coarse,
rough,
unrevised,
just the way it comes out first,
minus all the extra tries.
And then I guess
I want it short;
slash the draft so amplified,
until I've brought it down to what
is just a true surprise.

Ed Sadtler

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances, March 29 through April 8



By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

For tickets for either Center for the Arts Concert Hall (CFA) or Hylton Center, call 1-888-945-2468, buy tickets online through the event calendar (see links below), or visit the venue's box office. For more information, see the CFA [ticket page](#) or the Hylton Center [ticket purchase page](#).

At the Fairfax Campus Venues

Aquila Theatre: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Sun, Mar 31, 7:00

A pre-performance discussion with a member of the company begins 45 minutes prior to the performance.

Concert Hall

Admission: \$44, \$37, \$26.

Russian National Ballet: *Giselle*

Sat, Apr 6, 8:00

A pre-performance discussion with a member of the company begins 45 minutes prior to the performance.

Concert Hall

Admission: \$56, \$48, \$34.

Russian National Ballet: *The Sleeping Beauty*

Sun, Apr 7, 2:00

A pre-performance discussion with a member of the company begins 45 minutes prior to the performance.

Concert Hall

Admission: \$56, \$48, \$34.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Mason Student & Faculty Performances

(see music.gmu.edu for additional student recitals)

Mason School of Theater: *Our Country's Good*

Fri, Mar 29 and Sat Mar 30, 8:00

Sat, Mar 30, 2:00

Thu, Apr 4 – Sat, Apr 6, 8:00

Sat, Apr 06 and Sun, Apr 7, 2:00

TheaterSpace

Admission : \$30, Adult: \$15, senior.

Mason Dance Company Gala

Fri, Mar 29 and Sat, Mar 30 8:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$28, Adult: \$15, senior.

Faculty Artist Series: Julianna Nickel, Flute & James Nickel, Horn

Sat, Mar 30, 4:00

Harris Theatre

Admission: Free.

2019 Mason Dance Fête

Sat, Mar 30, 5:30
 The event includes a wine, hors d'oeuvres, and dessert reception, student showcases, a ticket to the Dance Gala Concert and a chance to mingle with School of Dance students, faculty, and supporters.
 deLaski Performing Arts Building, Rooms A301, A305, A307, and Concert Hall
 Admission: \$95.

Faculty Artist Series: Dr. Dorotea Racz, Cello

Sun, Mar 31, 3:00
 Harris Theatre
 Admission: Free.

Percussion Ensemble Concert

Sun, Mar 31, 7:00
 Harris Theatre
 Admission: Free.

Big Band Showdown

Mon, Apr 1, 8:00
 Concert Hall
 Admission: \$12, Adult; \$8, senior.

Mason Tuba Euphonium Ensemble

Sun, Apr 7, 5:00
 Harris Theatre
 Admission: Free.

Vocal Pops Concert

Sun, Apr 7, 6:00
 deLaski 3001
 Admission: Free.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

Gallery Exhibit: David Barr

Apr 2 – May 18
 Gallery Reception: Thu, April 11, 6:00.
 Gallery receptions are free and open to the public. Please RSVP to smeyer3@gmu.edu.
 Buchanan Partners Art Gallery.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show

Sat, Mar 30, 2:00 and 4:00
 Merchant Hall
 Admission: \$15, Adult; \$10, children.

Mason Dance Company Gala

Sun, Mar 31, 4:00
 Merchant Hall
 Admission: \$28, Adult; \$15, senior.

Matinee Idylls: Thomas Pandolfi

Tue, Apr 2, Lunch, 12:30: Concert, 1:30
 Gregory Family Theater
 Admission:
 Lunch/Concert/Dessert Reception: \$47

Concert/Dessert Reception: \$27.

Russian National Ballet: Swan Lake

Fri, Apr 5, 8:00
 A pre-performance discussion with a member of the company begins 45 minutes prior to the performance.
 Merchant Hall
 Admission: \$56, \$48, \$34.

American Roots Series: The Seldom Scene

Sat, Apr 6, 8:00
 Gregory Family Theater
 Admission: \$25, in advance: \$30, day of performance.

Washington National Opera's Young Artists and Mason Opera: Raising Voices

Sun, Apr 7, 4:00
 Merchant Hall
 Admission: \$20.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

For further details on any of the above events, see the [CFA event calendar](#) and the [Hylton Center event calendar](#).

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Meetings & Clubs

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office, with direct web links added when available. The list is accurate as of mid-week but for the most up-to-date information, please view the latest forecast of coming events on our website ([News/OLLI Calendar](#)).
Note: All OLLI members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of Directors, committees and resource groups, kick-off coffees, etc.

Sat Mar 30	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
Wed Apr 3	1:30pm	MahJongg Club-TA-2
	1:45pm	Bridge Club-TA-3
	2:15pm	History Club-TA-1
Fri Apr 5	9:15am	Recorder Consort-TA-3
	9:30am	Crafts and Conversation-Annex
	11:00am	Classic Literature Club-TA-2
	11:00am	Homer, etc.-Annex
Sat Apr 6	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
Wed Apr 10	1:30pm	Tallwood Book Club-Annex
	1:45pm	Bridge Club-TA-3
	1:45pm	Spanish Club-TA-2
Fri Apr 12	9:15am	Recorder Consort-TA-3
	9:30am	Crafts and Conversation-Annex
	9:30am	Photography Club-TA-1
	11:00am	Classic Literature Club-TA-2
	11:00am	Homer, etc.-Annex
	12:30pm	Dr. Who Club-TA-3
Sat Apr 13	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3

[Back to Top of Page](#)

About *OLLI E-News*

OLLI E-News was created by Rod Zumbro, who served as its editor from 2005 to 2013.

Editorial Staff

Chief Editor: Paul Van Hemel

Associate Editor: David Gundry

Weekly Editor Team: David Gundry, John Nash, Sheri Siesseger, Leslie Vandivere,

Paul Van Hemel

Proofreaders: Rebecca Jann, Susan Van Hemel, Linda Randall, Tom Appich, Roz Stark

Jane Hassell

Backup Chief Editor: Alice Slayton Clark

Submissions: Members are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, letters to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (on etiquette matters), OLLI-related news items, articles, and photos. Submit material to: ollinewseditor@gmail.com.

Deadline: Tuesday, 6:00, for that week's issue (Monday, 6:00, for letters to the editor); early submissions are greatly appreciated. Please limit articles to about 250 words.

Note: You can view past issues of *OLLI E-News* on the DocStore. To search the content of issues, use Search Our Site or put your search term in Google followed by "site:olli.gmu.edu/" without the quotes.

[Back to Top of Page](#)